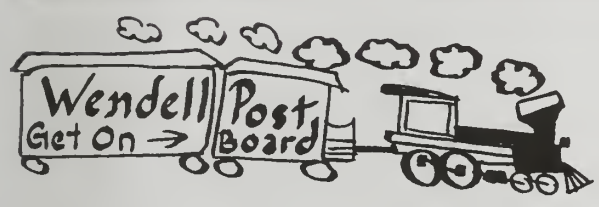
WENDELL POST

PRESS

Wendell Post Reporter

504 (cheap)

Vol. 23rd year Birthday Issue #1 April/May 1999



Mature, 23 year old paper seeks community spirited persons of any age for shared project fulfillment, no permanent committment needed.

ELECTION ISSUE

* Town Elections
May 3rd
10A - 8P
Senior Center

*Annual Town Meeting
June 1st 7:30 P
Town Hall

*Special Town Meeting
June 1st 7:00 P
Town Hall

BALLOT QUESTIONS

Wendell residents will be asked to consider wireless communications/cell phone tower development at both the May 3rd elections and the June 1 Annual Town Meeting this year. The ballot question, a non-binding referendum asks voters whether they approve of the construction of wireless communications/cell phone towers in the Town of Wendell. Town meeting will consider adopting a new bylaw regulating the construction of wireless communications facilities in the town. There will be a public hearing to review the new Wireless Communication Bylaw Tuesday May 18th at the Senior Center.

The ballot question was introduced by Kenneth Holmberg, a member of the Planning Board in response to issues brought to the board's attention by concerned residents while they were revising the Town's bylaw. "My intent in proposing the referendum was to make people aware of the towers issue and get a sense of how Wendell citizens feel about it, before the zoning bylaw is discussed at Town Meeting."

In drafting the bylaw proposal, the Planning Board has had to be attentive to staying within the limits of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Peggy Sloan, Director of Planning & Development at Franklin Regional Council of Governments, advised the board to remove the review of possible health effects from the Special Permit section, as it does not appear to comply with the federal law. Section 704 of the Act states that "No State of local government...may regulate the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless facilities, on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such facilities comply with the Commissions regulations concerning such emissions." ... pg 3

SUPERINTENDENT LUBINSKY LEAVES POSITION HELD FOR 25 YEARS

In March, Leonard J. Lubinsky, Superintendent of Union #28, announced that that he is leaving his position to become the Executive Director of the Northeast Foundation for Children. On Mr. Lubinsky's last day, August 27, 1999, he will have been Superintendent of Union #28 (which includes Wendell, New Salem, Erving, Leverett and Shutesbury) for 25 years and one day. His new position at the Foundation begins in early September. Northeast Foundation has several different programs which include the Center School in Greenfield, consulting nation-wide and publishing books about education.

When Mr. Lubinsky took over the Superintendent's position in 1974 his office was on the third floor of the New Salem Town Hall. At that time most Wendell children attended classes in the Wendell Center School (now the Town Offices) which had only two classrooms. One classroom for grades 1, 2 and 3 had 38 students and one teacher. The second classroom for grades 4, 5 and 6 had 28 children and one teacher. Kindergartners and children who lived in the Mormon Hollow and Farley Roads area attended school in Erving on a tuition basis.

In New Salem students were scattered among New Salem's two room schoolhouse, a portable classroom attached to the Town Hall and a room rented from New Salem Academy. Kindergartners attended the Shutesbury School.

John Kallio served as principal for all the schools in both towns. Mr. Lubinsky recalled that Principal Kallio found it difficult and demanding to work with New Salem's scattered classrooms and staff.

Mr. Lubinsky remembers many names of teachers and aides from his first year: Nancy Gregg, Tedd Brown and Susie Mosher taught in New Salem, Joy Brenneman and Leonard Strauss taught in Wendell. In fact, Mr. Strauss was the first teacher that Mr. Lubinsky hired .. back in January, 1975! ... pg 3

WENDELL POST

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POST ARTICLE INSTRUCTIONS

Please send submissions to Wendell Post, P.O. Box 113, Wendell, MA 01379
All articles and letters submitted to the Post for publication need to be signed. If you have a computer, you can help by setting them in our style: **3 ¼" wide, 12 point font size, standard font.** Indent three spaces for paragraphs, and do not use an extra space between paragraphs. Please be brief, to share our limited space. If you have questions, call a Post staffer.

Articles: The Post welcomes signed, concise articles about topics of interest to Wendell.

Letters: The Post accepts brief letters. Remember, passion doesn't need to be mean.

Artwork: Local artwork lovingly accepted. Must be in shiny black ink.

Ads: $7.50 per business card!

We now have an e-mail address! Write us or submit articles to wendellpost@yahoo.com

Addition at the Library?

The time has come. Nothing seems efficient here any more. Books are beginning to pile up everywhere. We are in a constant shuffling act between the space needs of running a library and the space needs of the public using the library. The needs of active children often conflict with the needs of adults attempting quieter research.

Throughout the decade of the 90's the librarian and trustees have made every effort to maximize the use of Wendell's beautiful but tiny library building. The collection is vigorously weeded of outdated and under-used books. Shelving has been rearranged several times to accommodate more books while creating a greater sense of openness and places for people to sit and work. The basement has been renovated to make it a more pleasant area for library activities. During this decade the library has gone from installing its first telephone line to providing full public access to the internet on a pentium II computer. In 1990 the library circulated approximately 5,200 items. In 1997 and 1998 the average annual circulation was 11,300 items and the average number of annual visitors was 4,300.

For several years now the librarian and trustees have been spinning our wheels on this issue of space. The prospect of facing an addition project on a municipal building has been daunting. The idea of asking already stretched residents to dig deeper into their pockets at town meeting for an addition has seemed unfathomable. Our efforts at maximizing the use of existing space has bought us these past 10 years but it is clear now that more room is necessary if we are to continue serving Wendell effectively.

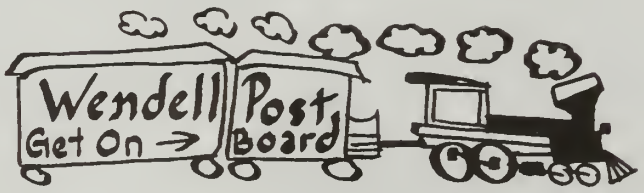
Until recently I had assumed that the extent of the addition would be what would fit onto the library's postage stamp lot; approximately an 18'x24' two story addition off the west end of the building essentially providing a larger children's area, more space for staff activities and room for a small lift between floors. It has become clear however that it would be prudent to look at the whole range of library needs before reaching a conclusion.

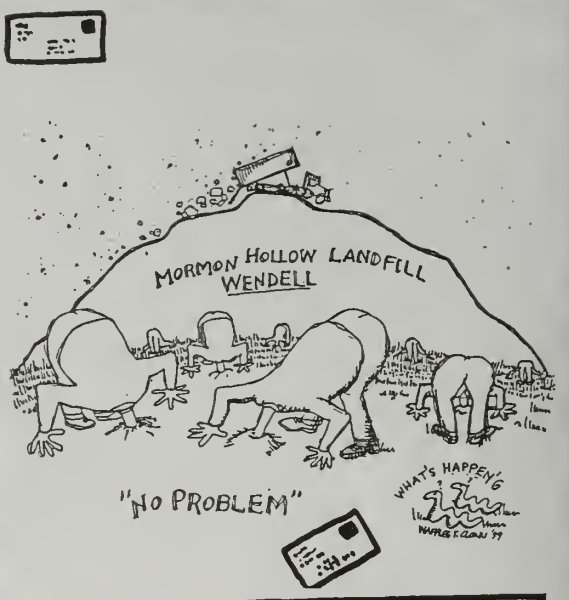
With these thoughts in mind the library trustees will soon be appointing a building committee. Most likely the first task will be to complete a 20-year projected library needs assessment for the town of Wendell. (If you think you may be interested in serving on the committee please speak to a trustee.)

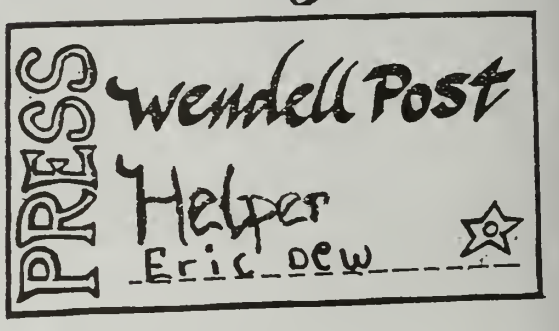
In preparation for the library expansion, whatever it might be, the trustees have placed an article on the annual town meeting warrent asking for $10,000 to initiate a library building fund. The hope is to accumulate both public and private funds over several years in anticipation of eventual construction, lessening the financial impact in any given year.

Rosie Heidkamp, librarian

LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Francis Doughty 4-5450
Judy Putnam 4-7439
Janet Mankowsky 4-7751
Olga Holmberg 4-2706
Karen Traub 4-7643
Sylvia Wetherby 4-6146







A TRIBUTE TO
MARJORIE "GIRLIE" LEWIS

On March 3rd I lost a very dear, long-time neighbor and friend. Her name, Marjorie "Girlie" Lewis. I was a very young girl when she and Ted Lewis bought what was then the old Webster house on West Road in Wendell just down the street from us, the Hildreth's. From that day until her death she was the best kind of neighbor and friend anyone could ask for.

I will always remember her home-made cookies and peach pies she and I shared time and time again, and the spring times we spent together picking flowers.

Even though now I live in Long Beach, California, I would come home every few years to visit my sister, Florence Hildreth-Bergmann, and my friend "Girlie".

As I sit here at my sister's kitchen table the day is cold and snow is falling. I realized this is the first time in over 20 years I have come to visit in the winter time. Nothing, not even the weather, was going to keep me from coming home; home for my friend's funeral.

Girlie, I love you and I will miss you a lot.

Alice Hildreth-Johnson
Long Beach, California

Ballot Questions continued

Concerned residents Nancy Riebschlaeger, Gloria Kegeles, and Al MacIntire provided the Planning Board with literature concerning potential health risks of electromagnetic fields and communities taking actions to challenge Section 704. This information helped inspire Holmberg to suggest the referendum.

"The Telecommunications Act has required local communities to accommodate the commercial telecommunications industry, whether or not they approve of them or think they'll serve local needs," Holmberg said. "I am not so much opposed to the industry's wanting to locate a tower in Wendell, as that I don't like the Town being told that it must accommodate any commercial enterprise. I think it should be left up to the Town."

Local attorney Jeff Bauman sees it differently. There are many other federal laws with restrict state and local control, he advised the board in response to the suggested referendum, citing laws requiring desegregation as an example. He believes a legal challenge to Section 704 would be defeated, and the federal government has the right to set some laws, which limit local authority.

In February, the Planning Board received notice that the Wireless Communications Overlay District bylaw passed at last year's Town Meeting has not been approved by the Attorney General's office. Assistant Attorney General Robert Ritchie found that a district comprised of nine town-owned parcels, managed by specific town departments could vary as a function of ownership by the town rather than by the statutory means by which a zoning district boundary may be amended. In addition he said that the arrangement Wendell proposed would violate the "uniformity" requirements which state that any division of towns into districts shall be uniform within the district.

The new bylaw proposal no longer creates an overlay district, but instead defines location by prohibiting tower construction in the center of town, near any wetlands, archaeological, or historic sites, protected habitat, or state owned land. The special permit process addresses a variety of concerns in citing wireless communications facilities. In addition, sections have been added requiring:

- That independent consultants of the towns choosing be hired at the developers expense to oversee all phase of the construction and operation of the facility.
- Regular monitoring of emissions for compliance with FCC standards, along with penalties for violations.
- Removal of facilities that are no longer in operation and a financial guarantee to the town to cover removal costs as a condition of the special permit.
- Permit renewal every ten years, at which time the developer may be asked to update technology if advances have been made which are safer and/or less obtrusive to the landscape.

Several town residents have assisted the board in drafting the by-law proposal. Al MacIntire of Mormon Hollow Road, a Radio Frequency Test and Measurement Engineer who works with quality control of RF shielded enclosure, has served as a technical advisor for the board. Mason Phelps of New Salem Road helped to fine tune details of the proposal and suggested measures to minimize the impact of tower development. Attorney Jeff Bauman of Locke Hill Road reviewed the bylaw and suggested the section requiring periodic re-permitting of towers.

Planning Board Chair Rick Asmann encourages residents who are concerned about the details of the proposed zoning by-law to attend the May 18th public hearing or submit comments to the board prior to that date, rather than waiting until Town meeting to offer suggestions.

Mr. Lubinsky continued

Mr. Lubinsky characterized the Wendell school as crowded and lacking resources; 66 children shared two rooms and had no gymnasium, no cafeteria and no art or music space. Nonetheless, Mr. Lubinsky credited Mr. Strauss with creating an extraordinary school in the manner of a British elementary school.

Mr. Lubinsky's predecessor, Gene Thayer, had just completed persuading the state legislature to allow New Salem and Wendell to form their own school district. Together Mr. Lubinsky and Mr. Thayer continued the process of building Swift River School along with Ward Hunting of New Salem and Al Diemand of Wendell who served as co-chairs of the Building Committee. Swift River School opened in 1976. By 1989 the student population had outgrown its new school; Mr. Lubinsky shepherded the School Committee and the towns through the process of building an addition that doubled the size of the school, creating a full size gymnasium, a larger library, more separate and sound-proof classrooms. The preschool which had held classes in the old Wendell Center School was moved to new quarters attached to the school but with a separate entrance.

Mr. Lubinsky believes his biggest accomplishment in 25 years of serving New Salem and Wendell is the creation at Swift River of an extraordinarily fine school. He said, "It is not unusual for visitors to the Swift River School to state that it is the most child-centered school they've ever seen." But he prefaced these remarks by giving most of the credit to the principals and teachers at Swift River for setting the tone and establishing an environment where children are the main focus.

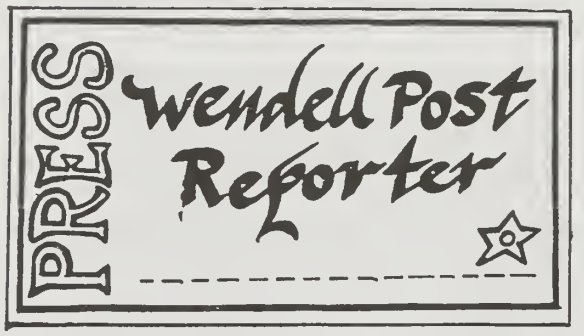
When asked what he will miss when he leaves the Superintendent's position, Mr. Lubinsky said, "The people! The pleasure of working in Union #28 is working with very bright and capable principals and staff members." He also said that the school committees have been wonderful to work with.

Mr. Lubinsky has high expectations and goals for his new position. The Northeast Foundation for Children is a national organization which consults all over the country and publishes books about education; perhaps the best known is *Teaching Children to Care*. The goal of the Foundation is to create more humane schools that take care of children in the right way, helping children to be better people who are prepared to learn and ultimately improve. society. As Executive Director he expects to have a national impact in the field of education.

This interviewer has worked with Mr. Lubinsky for over 20 years ... as a parent, as a School Committee member and as an employee. I learned early to appreciate his calm demeanor, his can-do attitude and his dry sense of humor. A non-judgmental person, he has respected and cooperated with the many diverse elements in our population. Mr. Lubinsky has worked hard with state legislators and other state officials to ensure that Swift River School is treated fairly and that it receives all possible funding and resources from the state.

Swift River School, the towns of Wendell and New Salem and all of Union #28 are losing a very able and experienced administrator and educator, a person whose high standards and hard work have helped create a wonderful elementary school. We will miss you, Mr. Lubinsky; and we wish you good luck as you start your new position!

by Christine Heard



Using this press pass as credentials, I once talked my way into a State Democratic Convention. While on the floor of the convention, astronaut/politician John Glenn backed into me. That is how it happened that I accidentally touched a globe that had circled the globe.
Kathy Becker

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4 Communications Marvel? Corporate/Federal Juggernaut? Public Menace? It's Knocking at Our Door. You Decide.

These articles were adapted by A.MacIntire from the writings of B. Blake Levitt and Dr. R. O. Becker. M.D.

The Politics of Regulating Telecommunications Development

Behind a little understood issue lies an intriguing political landscape that anyone concerned for the health of this and any community should know about. As of 1997, an estimated 100,000 new cellular towers utilizing the 800 to 900 MHz (megahertz) frequencies (the so-called "old analog systems") will be online across the country by the year 2000. An additional four new PCS (Personal [Digital] Communications Service) carriers using the 1 to 3 GHz (gigahertz) range were approved (in 1997) by the FCC for each cellular area. That system will add many hundreds of thousands more. PCS antennas need to be placed every two to eight miles apart. Just multiply that times four carriers. The systems don't share frequencies so they need their own separate antennas.

Siting the antenna necessary for the technology is a planning and zoning nightmare, and a serious threat to our health and environment in ways that Congress simply didn't understand when they passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Legislation moved so fast through Congress that most of the legislators in Washington, who were voting on the Telecommunications Act, didn't even know what the implications of those preemption clauses were to their constituents back home. Now everyone is finding out, and no one is happy about it. Legislators all over the country are getting flack for this, and major sections of the act are likely to be revisited by Congress.

Many citizens feel that the very limited frequencies of electromagnetic spectrum, which belong to the U.S. citizens like our national forests, and other important resources, should not be sold off to private corporations without a public debate on the order of what occurs when logging or oil drilling rights are sold in our forests. But such a national debate about selling the spectrum hasn't occurred, probably because the very finite real estate that is a spectrum is invisible. It remains a monumental public policy issue that very few of us, as citizens, have had an opportunity to comment on before this telecommunications build up occurred. The FCC is bending over backwards to help the industry, but no one is really protecting the interests of the citizens, or the communities. The subject seems so esoteric to most of us, that we are unaware of the fact that we should be concerned. Until, of course, a tower goes up in our backyard...

Before the Telecommunications Act became law, numerous communities across the country were simply banning cellular phone towers outright. Irate citizens who looked at the health issues, *which are real*, simply refused to take the risks and insisted their town governments back them up, which many did. The industry's response back in 1993 was first to petition the FCC to preempt all state and local zoning. Very few people knew this was happening at the federal level. It was a major power grab of local and state's rights by the telecommunications giants.

Not since the robber baron days at the turn of the last century, and the building of the railroads, has there been such contempt for local land use authority. There was not a single press article on the preemption moves at the time that was immediately evident. The petitions were filed two days before Christmas of '96, after government officials had left for the holidays, when it was thought that most FCC observers would be otherwise occupied. There was only a 30-day public comment period. Nevertheless, a number of people, including several aware activists, managed to get the word out quickly so that some enlightened on the subject had the opportunity to comment. The FCC, by its own admission, is a licensing and engineering agency, which defers to other agencies for research and standards setting. It wisely turned down the preemption requests because to do otherwise would have been flagrantly outside their authority, not to mention against the 10th amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Industry then went searching for a legislator to champion their cause and found one in Senator Klug from Wisconsin who introduced preemption clauses into the huge and complex telecommunications bill. Again, there was a mad scramble to educate concerned people and organizations about this new power grab. Activists were frantically lobbying representatives and senators, who knew nothing about why these clauses were in there, or even what they meant. They certainly didn't know that there was a raging debate about the health effects of the radio frequencies that had been going on for decades in scientific circles. A last ditch, bipartisan effort by Senator Diane Feinstein, a California Democrat, and Sen. Kempthorn, an Idaho Republican, tried to remove the clauses, but that effort was defeated by a narrow 56 to 44 margin on the Senate floor.

That will give you an idea of the kind of pressure that legislators have been under from their constituents to not allow this industry to have a clear, carte blanche shot at the country, as if there were no problem with this technology. But industry prevailed, due in large part to the pro-business, and anti-environmental attitudes of the last Congress, a deal-making Clinton Administration, and millions of dollars poured into re-election coffers by the telecommunications companies. So maybe you want to ask how much money the telecommunications companies donated to your U.S. Sen. or Representative in the last campaign?

What became the law of the land in Section 704 of the Telecommunications Act was this: state and local governments preserve their authority over the placement, construction, and modification of personal wireless services. But they cannot discriminate among providers, nor prohibit--directly or indirectly--the provisions of such services. This section further preempts state and local regulation of such placement on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions, to the extent that such facilities comply with FCC regulations for such emissions. This goes directly to the heart of the problem. It's like having a landfill in your front yard and trying to ignore it.

There are significant legal issues regarding zoning and siting determinations: challenges to health and public policy authority regarding radiation standards setting; property rights and illegal takings regarding real estate devaluation; and even free speech issues regarding our ability to simply discuss the environmental effects of RF (radio-frequencies) at local planning and zoning meetings. Inherent rights are in danger, and it's a classic battle of local vs. federal control.

The telecommunications industry is not a "nice" industry, to say the least. The representatives who appear before local boards are usually great. More helpful people you won't find anywhere. They always want to work with the towns. Offer to pay for fire, police, and ambulance radio services on top of their own. That's an intentional strategy. They hold workshops to teach them this approach, and instruct them how to handle the media. Behind the scenes the industry is a multi-billion-dollar conglomerate that plays hard ball. Local zoning regulations are a major hassle to them and they want us out of the way, except as users and payers for their service.

Their moves (which again, most people are unaware of) include a request that the FCC ban local communities' ability to set temporary moratoriums and a request that the FCC declare it illegal for communities to make the providers prove that they are in compliance with the RF emissions regulations. They are also trying to get the FCC to forbid discussion of the RF health effects at zoning hearings. Industry has asked the Senate Commerce Committee to preempt all state and local siting authority again, to consider telecommunications as an interstate commerce issue. That committee does have federal authority to override state's rights. Consumers have been banned from commenting at the hearings. Industry is heavily represented. It's difficult to get any information about it. Even back in 1997, well over 300 towns across the country had moratoriums in place. Industry doesn't want us to study this situation. The FCC is happy to oblige.

Wireless Communications and Public Health

It's very tempting to consider the prospect of communication towers on scenic ridgelines or in neighborhoods as merely an aesthetic problem. It's also very tempting to justify them on church steeples, barn silos, or atop tall buildings, or to shield them in state forests. That's how to solve the question of aesthetics. However, the health and scientific problems associated with this technology are far more complicated than that, as the communications industry well knows.

When the telecom industry talks about "environmental" effects, they mean health effects in humans. They are loath to mention "health effects" and "cellular phones" in the same sentence and have, therefore, made the regulation language indistinct. The research for RF is nowhere near as abundant as it is for the 60 Hz power line frequencies. Some would say this is not an accident--that you can't find what you're not looking for. But a substantial amount of the research does exist, certainly enough to get the general lay of the landscape.

Radiation is a natural part of the universe. We're bathed in a constant stream of electromagnetic radiation produced by the power of the sun's solar winds, which give off high-energy ionizing radiation like x-rays, infrared, ultraviolet, gamma and cosmic rays, and some radio/microwave frequencies too. These interact in a complex way with the magnetosphere, which protects the earth from this barrage-otherwise we wouldn't exist on this planet; as well as the ionosphere and the atmosphere closer to earth. The earth itself is a giant dipole magnet (like those little bar magnets we all played with as kids) containing a north and south pole. Micropulsations in the 10 Hz (that's Hertz-or one complete wave cycle per second) frequency range constantly emanate from the earth's core. Scientists used to think these micropulsations were interesting but meaningless phenomena. Today many realize that all living things are in a complex relationship with them; entrained by them, in fact. Entrainment phenomenon can be thought

Continued on insert!

JOSEPH J. COLL, JR.
REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE

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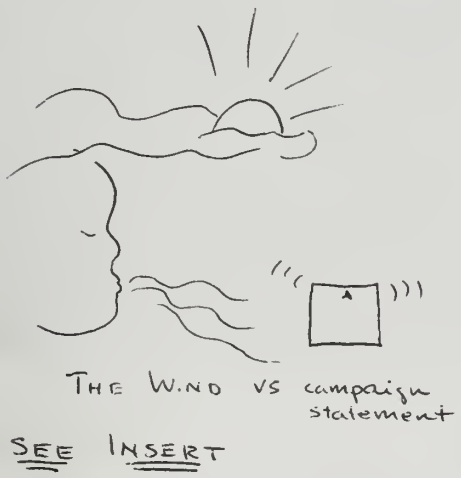
Candidate's Statements VOTE may 3RD

SELECT BOARD **3 years**
KATHARINE BENTLEY



BOARD OF ASSESSORS **3 years**
MARY MacBRIDE

I have served on the Wendell Board of Assessors since May, 1996 and thank you for your past votes. I am seeking re-election to continue to serve the Wendell community as an assessor for the next three years. I have been a Wendell homeowner for more than fifteen years and have experience working in both the public and private sectors. I believe my experience as an administrator in community development for fourteen years and my work in real estate are valuable assets for the position. I earned the required assessor certification in 1996 and have acted as chairperson of the board for nearly three years. Thank you for your consideration.

Mary McBride

2 years
MARION HERRICK

Marion Herrick has been on the Board of Assessors for many years. She served as the clerk until she took over the post left vacant by Ted Gagnon. Marion has been a mainstay on this board and she enjoys helping the townspeople in this capacity.

Anne Diemand

TOWN CLERK **3 years**
ANNA HARTJENS

TOWN CLERK

Anna Hartjens has been Town Clerk for Wendell since 1973. She enjoys meeting people and working with government. She has seen many changes - one of the biggest is the Voter Registration Information System. The VRIS started three years ago and has taken a considerable amount of time to put into place. Annie (as she is known to most of us) has thought about retiring but wants to hang in there to see the town through all these changes. She knows the town needs new blood and wants to make sure everything is set in place for the ones to come next.

Anne Diemand

MODERATOR **1 year**
KATHY BECKER

We have a more recent tradition in Wendell of respectful Town Meeting conduct which balances legends of our prohibition era town meeting brawling. The Townhall stove and stove pipe that marked family faction boundaries is memory now. Wendell voters still remain unique. One of our characteristics is our thoughtful long deliberation of issues. With your support, we could begin to streamline Town Meeting process. We can clip some tedious talking about talking and get right down to matters more effectively. Let's try a more direction focused Moderating style to compliment the lively spirit of Wendell Democracy.

Relevant voter information regarding my bid for re-election to a 15th one year term as Moderator is my continued active participation in the Massachusetts Moderators Association. I am serving a second year on the MAA Executive Committee and am Communication Committee chair. This organization is growing very strong. Among its many accomplishments, the MMA writes the manual Town Meeting Time, which is our parliamentary guide in Wendell. The e-mail moderators line is a daily education for me. The insights I am gaining are a challenge to me and are something I would like to share with Wendell voters. We need more town meeting participation, but lots of us have less and less time to spend paying attention to issues we can't afford to ignore. Our meeting pace can match the time we have to give to public affairs without loosing any care or thoughtfulness.

Thankyou,
Kathy-Ann B. Becker

TAX COLLECTOR **3 years**
PENNY DELOREY

Penny has enjoyed taking over the role as Tax Collector. It has been a challenging role to have in town and she appreciates everyon's support.

Anne Diemand

TREASURER **3 years**
CAROLYN MANLEY

Carolyn Manly has enjoyed serving the Town of Wendell as the Treasurer for the last two years and looks forward to continuing to do so.

Anne Diemand

BOARD OF HEALTH **3 years**
JANEE STONE
ZENYA WILD

I have served on the Board of Health for almost five years. I am a Registered Nurse and bring a wholistic health awareness perspective to BOH functions, including inspections of the schools, stores, camps, and homes in Wendell. I attend workshops and day-long seminars to keep on the cutting edge of good health leaping into the next century. I care about the health and safety of our people in Wendell and have shown my willingness to devote the time, effort, and expertise this demanding job requires.

See you at the ballets on voting day!
Peace -- Janee Stone

GLORIA KEGELES **2 years**

PLANNING BOARD **5 years**
KEN HOLMBERG

Ken Holmberg
I've been a resident of Wendell for 17 years. I like the philosophy of "live and let live" - in other words, showing tolerance and respect for fellow townspeople and neighbors even when you disagree with them. I think that the rural character of the town is one of its assets and I will strive to preserve that rural character and contribute to the Planning Board in whatever way I can.

MARIANNE SUNDELL **2 years**

Marianne has been a member of the Planning Board since last August. She is also the representative to the County Planning Board. The Planning Board is something she had thought of joining for quite awhile and now that her children are getting older it seemed like a good time to help out. Marianne has lived in town since 1984 and has seen the changes that the bylaws in town may not cover anymore. She realizes that today we have to make sure we protect ourselves in the town about the projects we undertake. The bylaws that we have today have many holes in them and one of her interests is in creative legislation, to protect town interests when we are no longer just dealing with town residents but dealing with people and companies with outside interests.
Marianne moved from Washington, D.C. to study Environmental Studies and Public Policy at Hampshire College. She remembers watching Court Dorsey performing street threatre in D.C. during the Carter days and becoming interested in land use and policies at the age of fourteen.
The two projects that are on the top ofThe Planning Board's list are
1) cell-phone tower
2) sight plan review
She enjoys being part of the County Board and feels that it is exciting to be a part of the council of governments.

Anne Diemand

ROAD COMMISSIONER **3 years**

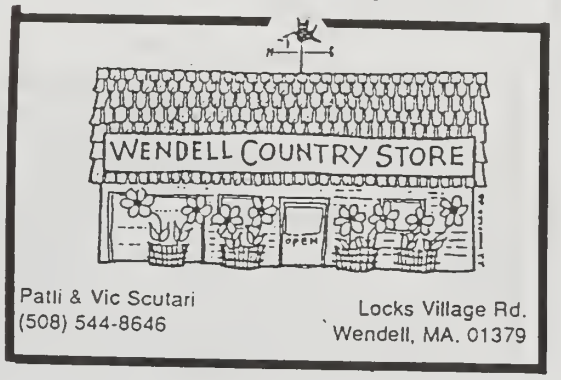
TREE WARDEN **1 year**
DANIEL BACIGALUPO

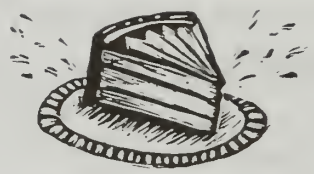
LIBRARY TRUSTEE (2) **3 years**

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER **3 years**
JOHN BULGER

SCHOOL COMMITTEE **3 years**
D. NEIL GOMBERG

Question # 1 Non-Binding Referendum
Do you approve of having any commercial cell-phone tower (wireless communication) in the Town of Wendell? ___yes ___no.





FIRE LOG

#56	12\13\98	Med-Call	102 Lockes Village Rd.
#57	12\28\98	False Alarm	22 Checkerberry Ln.
#58	12\28\98	Structure Fire	Camp Anderson
#1	1\2\99	Vehicle Accident	New Salem rd.
#2	1\6\99	Public Service	37 Kempfield Rd.
#3	1\10\99	Vehicle Acc/Med.	Wendell Depot Rd.
#4	1\29\99	Med- Call	71 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#5	1\30\99	Mutual Aid	Shutesbury
#6	2\17\99	Med -Call	71 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#7	2\23\99	Chimney Fire	38 Wendell Depot Rd.
#8	2\26\99	Med -Call	71 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#9	2\27\99	Med -Call	71 Mormon Hollow Rd.
#10	3\4\99	Smoke/Fumes Inv.	Lake Grove School
#11	3\11\99	Med Call	Lake Grove School
#12	3\14\99	Med Call	205 Cooleyville rd.
#13	3\19\99	Med Call	71 Mormon Hollow
#14	3\31\99	Mutual Aid	New Salem

COPS CORNER

Pistol Permit/FID card Information

Your current FID card will expire on your birthday in 1999 if you were born between July 1 and Dec. 31 It will expire on your birthday in the year 2000 if your birthday falls between Jan. 1 and June 30.

Your current Pistol Permit (LTC) will expire on the expiration date on the permit.

There are 4 classes of new licenses:
Class A-- purchase and possession, carrying of large-capacity handguns, rifles, shotguns and feeding devices.
Class B--purchase, possession, carrying non-large capacity handguns and large-capacity rifles & shotguns.
Class C--purchase, possession, carrying non-large capacity rifles and shotguns.
Class D--purchase & possession of chemical sprays (mace, pepper etc.).

The new permits are valid for 4 years and the fee is $25.

The new permits all require a fingerprint record check and 3 photographs (even for renewals). This process takes approximately 30 days, so don't put this off until hunting season.

Effective October 21,1998, all firearms must be stored in a locked container or be equipped with an approved locking device.

All new applicants for a FID or LTC must complete a certified firearms safety or hunter education course.

Chief Chase

Jerry Eide
Hill Town Restoration
(508) 544-7864
Specializing in Preservation Techniques

Wendell Police Log

Officer A. Diemand

02-28-99	MV accident. Locke's Village Rd.
	Safety Hazard. West St.
	MV accident. Jennison Rd.
03-01-99	Officer call back.
03-02-99	Officer wanted. Farley Rd.
03-09-99	Officer call back.
03-17-99	Suspicious person. Locke Hill.
03-27-99	Officer wanted. Wendell Depot Rd.
03-31099	Open door. Mormon Hollow Rd.

Mahar Honor Roll

Ralph C. Mahar Regional School
A-B Honor Roll: Quarter 2
*Indicates all A's

Grade 7
Keri Ewell
Rebecca LaClaire
Kathryn L Richard
Grade 8
Travis E. Boland
Jamie Cocco
Susan A Mangan
Kimberly Manley
Dawn M. Walsh
Antavis R. Wings*
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School
Middle School Second Honor Roll: Quarter 2
Grade 8
Ariel E. Barilla
Lindsay Feltman
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School
A-B Honor Roll: Quarter 2
Indicates All A's
Grade 9
David C Ewell
Kelly J. Simon
Brendan P Walsh
Tessa R White-Diemand
Grade 10
Michell Lowell
Liam Walsh
Grade 11
Jesse E. Davis
Mara J. Gross*
Peter R. Walsh
Grade 12
Charlsie M. Baleno
Caralee U. Manley*

Keller Beef
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.nearly organic
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978 544-7601
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HC 82 Wickett Pond Rd.
Wendell, Mass. 01379
24 Hour Towing Service
General Service - To High Performance Big Blocks

PREPARING For 2000

In a recent USA Today poll, 24% of respondents said they planned to purchase a wood stove before Jan 1, 2000. 24% of the some 100 million households in the U.S. means 24 million wood stoves. Unfortunately, the total number of wood stoves for sale nationwide is less than one million.

The reason so many people are interested in getting wood stoves is of course because they think Y2K could cause extended power outages disabling their central heating in the dead of winter. Some consider this concern to be farfetched. But is it?

The U.S. Senate committee studying this issue recently issued a report expressing concern that the power industry has a long way to go to solve its year 2000 computer problems, and there might not be enough time to get the job done. It also reports that few utilities have completed plans for operating without compliant computer systems.

A Jan. 10, 1999 Boston Globe article revealed that New England Electric (Mass. Electic's parent company) and Northeast Utilities are less than 10% finished with their computer fixes after years of working on it.

Maybe, as our local power companies assure us, they will have their computers fixed by Jan. 1. And maybe, failing that, they will be able to somehow fix them in the first few days of January while manually maintaining an uninterrupted power supply. Maybe oil shortages caused by Y2K problems in oil producing countries, automated tankers and unloading facilities won't cause trains to have insufficient fuel to deliver coal to generating plants. Maybe there will not be power failures in other regions which will cause failures here (as the Senate report states is possible)

Maybe there will be no general power outages in New England, but just shortages. If there's not enough to go around who will likely get preference, Boston or Wendell?

The American Red Cross and FEMA are recommending that people prepare for possible problems by setting aside several days worth of food and water. Keep in mind, however, that the big power outage last year in Canada and northern New England took more than two weeks to fix, and that was with the help of the rest of the country. If problems are widespread nationally, local problems will need to be fixed without outside help.

It may be, as many authorities claim, that serious power problems are unlikely. Still, anyone reading the Senate report would have to conclude that it makes sense to be prepared in case things go wrong. To discuss what precautions Wendell residents might take, the Community Council is hosting a series of open meetings. The next one will be Monday evening, May 10 at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center. If you are interested in this issue please try to come. If you are interested but unable to come and wish to be on a list of concerned citizens, call David Tasgal (544-7711) or Rosalie Rosser (544-6850).

P.S. If you're thinking about buying a wood stove, don't wait until December.

Rosalie Rosser

In Memorial

Bradley, Audrey and great-grandson, Austin

Bradley Merchant

Bradley O. Merchant died on March 31, 1999. He was born in Wendell on March 2, 1928. Bradley lived on Mormon Hollow Road most of his life. He was 71 years old.
Bradley worked on the Wendell Highway Dept. for 17 years. Before that he worked for Glen Ellis and then Jack Ellis.
He shared his life with Audrey Powling. They were together for 36 years. Even though he had no biological children he was a father to many. His nephew Ronnie Grogan remembers him as always being there for him, a real dad. Audrey's children - Brenda Grogan and Clare Paddock of Wendell, Dolores Coy, Charlene Peterson, Wayne, Gerald and Shonk Powling were his children even though they didn't share bloodlines. He was there for them all the times it mattered. He was easy to get close to. The little kids (the grandchildren and great-grand babies) all loved him, they would get so excited when they would see him. Sometimes it might seem like he was letting them get away with too much, but he wouldn't lose his patience - that was Bradley. He loved playing cards. He hunted and fished up until the last few years.

Our sympathy goes out to his family, we know he left a hole that will never be filled.

Anne Diemand

Odessa (MacLean) Oliver

Dett Oliver died on March 27, 1999 at her home on Wendell Depot Rd in Wendell. Dett was 95 years old. She was born on Nov. 4, 1903.
Her husband, Warren Oliver, Sr. died March 30,1984. Dett lived with her son, Warren Jr..
She also leaves three daughters, Joanne Richards of Palm Springs, Cal., Gloria Conkey of Belchertown and Phyllis Hubbard of Ware, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.
A daughter, Anita Tenney predeceased her.
Dett and her husband had 28 foster children live with them over the years. Many of these "foster children" still keep in touch with the family and are considered part of the family.
Dett was the holder of the Boston Post Golden Cane. This is given to the oldest resident in the Town of Wendell. Even though in her last few years it was harder for her to move around and she may have moved a little slower than she used to, if she was asked to go somewhere she would always say "yes!". Her family talks about shopping with her and once she would get her hands steady on the shopping cart she would be hard to keep up with.
Her grandson, Kevin speaks of her as the typical Grandma. Her love of children, always crocheting or knitting. Her patience and kindness were a comfort to her friends.

Dett and Warren were charter members of the Wendell Golden Age Club since its beginning 27 years ago. She is remembered and missed by her friends at the Senior Center. She was someone you could take a problem to and she would help you try and figure it out.
She always kept busy making things to donate to charity even though her arthritis was very painful. She wasn't one to dwell on her advancing age ans given the chance she would get out whenever asked. She loved the monthly bus rides the seniors were able to take. Eating at the Tech School was a favorite treat for her.
Dett always said she never had to want for anything in life, she had a good life. She was a contented woman. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Anne Diemand

Dett recieving golden cane from Ted Lewis

Maribeth Dawkins will travel to your home so you can fully embody your healing treatment without having to commute.

Nini & Maribeth are available to give four-handed shiatsu sessions.

Nini Melvin has created a technique, "PRESENTOUCH", which blends movement, meditation, and touch, based on the ancient wisdom of the five elements. She conducts workshops, and trains practitioners and teachers in the U.S. & Europe.

A convenient option for your health care!

West River Health Center

450 West River St., Orange, Mass.

(Exit 14 off Route 2)

- Fadi Baladi, MD, internal medicine - 544-1505
- Michael Azzoni, MD, orthopedics / sports medicine - 544-1512
- Orthopedic Physical Therapy - 544-1510
- Visiting Specialists - (for podiatry call 1-800-655-5722, for all others call 249-3511 Ext. 292 for appointments)
  - Richard Genovese, DPM, podiatric medicine and surgery
  - Andrea Damour, MD, obstetrics/gynecology
  - Harold Goldman, MD, neurology
  - Daniel Ervin, DO, otolaryngology (ears-nose-throat)
  - Howard Tice, MD, gastroenterology
  - Donald Levine, MD, endocrinology
  - George Krasowski, MD, surgery

- X-ray and Laboratory Services - 544-1500
- Athol Memorial Home Health & Hospice, a department of Athol Memorial Hospital, offering skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social service, HIV-AIDS case management and referrals -- 544-1523 for HIV-AIDS, 249-5366 for all other calls.

No matter where your doctor's office is located, you can come to the West River Health Center for lab and x-ray (check with your insurance carrier, however, for coverage).

a facility of
Athol Memorial Hospital

2033 Main St., Athol, Tel.: 978-249-3511

Your community hospital... serving the North Quabbin Region
An affiliate of UMass Memorial Health Care
Visit our web site: www.atholhospital.org

Posting Place

12th Annual/Perennial

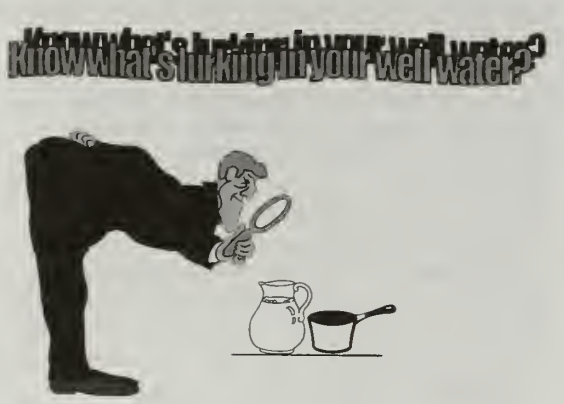
Plant Swap

SUNDAY MAY 16TH
10AM-NOON
RAIN OR SHINE
WENDELL COMMONS

Trade a plant with a neighbor. Bring a friend. Celebrate our love of gardening.
For info, call Rosie 544-8457

MEMORIAL DAY

The annual MEMORIAL DAY PARADE will be held on MAY 30 at 1 pm.
Anyone who would like to join the parade - veterans, scouts and groups are welcome.
The parade starts at the Wendell Fire Station and proceeds to the Town Common.
The planning committee is looking for two teenagers to help read Flanders Field and the Gettysburg Address.
Refreshments will be served after the service.
Any veterans or interested citizens please contact Anna at 544-6682 / 544-6052 or Judy at 544-2773.



Curious about what may be in your well water? The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) recommends that private well owners test their well water every three years for the following: coliform bacteria; sanitary chemicals; and volatile organic compounds (analyzed by EPA Method 524.2). If you suspect that you may have some old lead pipes, include a lead test. Many contaminants are undetectable by taste and color, but may be at unacceptable levels.

It is important that testing be conducted by a Massachusetts Certified Laboratory. Check the yellow pages under Environmental Labs and be sure to ask if the lab is state-certified for ALL of the tests that you want. Prices vary so check out a few labs. Get some of your fellow well owners together and ask for a discount. Make sure to ask that the results include the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for each contaminant. For assistance in understanding your test results, call Catherine Chamberlain, Site Discovery Coordinator, Western Regional Office, DEP, Springfield, at (413) 755-2223. Please note that the DEP does not regulate private well owners. Local Boards of Health (BOH) have jurisdiction over private wells.

WellH2O, April 1999

Wrestling Champs!

On February 19, 1999, after two days of wrestling competition, Rich Wilder took second place at the Western Mass. Championships at Southwick High School. Fellow Franklin County Technical School student Peter Diemand came in sixth place in a different weight category. Because of their wins, both boys traveled to Pittsfield to compete in the Western Mass. Championships, Division 3 (State Wrestling Championships). This competition only invites those wrestlers who are top winners in their weight categories.

As well as competing for Tech, Rich and Pete also wrestle for Franklin County Free Style Club, which practices Folk Style Wrestling. All high schools practice Folk Style. Other styles are Greco and Roman. Jonathan Burnett, who attends Mahar, has recently joined the club as well. After practicing for only 10 days, John won a match in Wayland. Way to go, John!

Coach Jim Westbrook boasts that John has great potential— he's a quick learner and has great promise in wrestling. Coach Westbrook goes on to explain that wrestling develops a closeness and comraderie among the team mates. He continues, "There's nothing these guys can't accomplish, they all strive to be their best." Wrestling is a physically demanding sport where total body conditioning pays off. Jim again boasts that Rich, Pete and John work hard to maintain strength and endurance.

This is a sport that whatever you put into it you get out of it.

Mez Ziemba

Wendell Open Juggling

- *Learn to Juggle*
- *Wendell Town Hall*
- *Mondays 7:00 - 8:30*
- *Please be at least 12 years old or accompanied by an adult*
- *Cost: $1.00 per session*

For more information call - Frank Citino at 544-7643
Paul Richmond at 544-8784.

Sponsored by the Wendell Recreation Committee!!

Community Policing

The Wendell Community Police Steering Comm. will sponsor youths wishing to attend the Student Trooper Program. This is a Program that consists of a one week, live in Police Academy class. It is not a summer camp. There will be vigorous physical training, including running and calisthenics. The ages are 15-17 years old. Male or female high school students that are in good scholastic standing.The dates are June 28 to July 2 and July 12 to July 16.
The Community Police Comm. is also sponsoring another self defense class for women and teenage girls.
We are looking into having dance classes to be held at the Town Hall. This will be a six week swing dance class and there is talk of a cajun dance class also. If interested in any of the above please call Anne at 544-6111.

Anne Diemand

QUABBIN MEDIATION
CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING
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P.O. Box 544 - Athol, MA - 01331 - (508) 544-6142

Jeffrey Bauman
Attorney At Law
P.O. Box 1003
Wendell, MA 01379-1003
978-544-7696

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TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

TOWN HALL 508 544 3395

Wendell Selectboard Meeting February 16, 1999 Minutes Members present were Ted Lewis and Katharine Bentley. Also present was Marjorie Mc Ginnis, Town Coordinator and Wanita Sears. Warrant and minutes were signed. Correspondence was reviewed. Meeting convened at 7:00.

Ted Lewis signed General Form Status Inquiry for Plain-Wickett Pond Roads project bond.

Board signed appointments for Charles Smith as Recycling Coordinator and Marianne Sundell as Selectboard Clerk.

Board signed Route 2 Selectboard letter.

Board signed note, RAN certificate, and designation for Treasurer.

Board signed appointments for Trisha Sylvia and Jesse Burch to Recreation Committee. Board reviewed use guidelines of Senior Center for recreation programs with them and Mez Ziemba.

Board decided to reschedule Marjorie Mc Ginnis's one year review until next meeting when all Board members will be present.

Board signed D&B Autobody Class II license.

Discussion of speeding in town and action to be taken.

Personnel Policy Hearing will be held on March 16, 1999 at 7:30.

Board designated three citizens to be named, Ted Lewis, Harry Williston, a Conservation Commission member, Danny Bacigalupo, a Planning Board member, and Bruce Hunter to the Lockes Village Road Culvert and Bridge Repair Advisory Committee.

Marjorie Mc Ginnis informed Board that she referred an inquiry call from the Greenfield Recorder about the Town audit to Town Counsel.

Board received letter from Department of Education regarding assessment in end of year pupil report not agreeing with regional.

Board reviewed letter from DEP regarding becoming an approved recycling and composting program.

Board discussed agenda, Town panel, D&B, DEP, and engineering panel with Jonathan Von Ranson, Moderator prior to asbestos dumping Public Hearing to be held at 7:00 on February 23, 1999 in the Town Hall.

Board heard concerns from Mark Marceau, Roger and Debbie Choiniere on conditions of Michael Wing's license. Boundaries, signs, selling, and tree planting for fencing were discussed. Board will explore ways to get trees planted.

Letter received from FCSWMD regarding changed hours at hazardous waste collection sites.

Letter received from Governor's Office announcing that their Western Massachusetts Office is at 436 Dwight Street in Springfield.

Board reviewed regional policy plan from FRCOG.

Board forwarded invitation to Y2K workshop in emergency management to Police, Highway, and Fire Departments.

Board reviewed Y2K booklet received from Department of Revenue. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 Respectfully Submitted. Wanita Sears Selectboard Clerk

March 2, 1999

Meeting convened at 7:07 p.m. Members present were Christine Heard and Katharine Bentley. Also present were Marjorie McGinnis and Marianne Sundell. Warrant and minutes were reviewed and signed.

Board reviewed and signed Chapter 61 waiver for land on the Wendell/New Salem line owned by Rodney Whittier.

Margie informed the board that the Governor has proposed a substantial reduction in Chapter 90 funds for road improvements. Board signed letters she prepared urging Senator, Rep. Kulik, and Gov. Celluci to oppose the reduction in funds.

Reviewed letter received from Planning Board regarding placement of a communications tower on town land. Board agreed that any use of town land would require a town meeting vote and procurement compliance. Marianne Sundell explained that Keenan Brinn of Tower Ventures, Inc. requested that the planning Board inform the Selectboard that his proposal appeared to be within the guidelines of our current wireless communication bylaw proposal. However it is the ZBA, not the Planning Board, that has the authority to grant permits. In light of new information, the board is planning to revise the bylaw proposal.

7:30 p.m. Pole hearing for Stone Cutoff Road. Sharon King of Mass. Electric attended. She explained that the new poles would reroute poles out of the middle of a field. Board signed.

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SELECTBOARD pg 9 ~ MINUTES

Board informed of Conservation Committee hearing on March 3rd at 4:00 p.m. for Wendell Depot Road culvert just before Plain Road.

Board signed letter adding more towns to CDBG application for housing rehabilitation. Wendell is the lead town on the grant.

Board appointed Harry Williston and Charles Smith as representatives to the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (FCSWMD.)

Board discussed rescheduling meeting time. They agreed to continue meeting on Tuesdays until Town Meeting and reconsider the matter at this time.

7:45 p.m. Nina Keller met with the board as a follow up to the DB forum. Board reviewed correspondence she received after the forum. Dan Keller of the Finance Committee is concerned that no money will remain for the perpetual fund. Margie confirmed that DB is named in the 1998 case from the Attorney General's office. Board will invite Dean Bennett and Joe Diemand to the next meeting, along with Nina, Fin. Com., and Board of Health members. Agenda to include certification of clean up on hill and escrow accounts. Board suggested that Nina needs a committee and could look to the independent environmental group, which will meet Friday, March 12 for members.

The board appointed Gloria Kegeles to the Board of Health.

Board discussed employee policy hearing scheduled for next meeting.

Margaret Paddock said that Jack Shea's dogs are still often running loose, and the police do not respond to her calls. Anne Zak has filed a complaint concerning the lack of a septic system for Jack's trailer. Margaret has complained about dead cars in his yard. Morgan Mead of the Board of Health has informed Christine that the BOH will have to call the County Health inspector and have his building condemned, if the septic can't be hooked up. He is working with Jack to address this problem.

Board reviewed a letter from the Zoning Board of Appeals concerning hearing notifications with Myron Becker of the ZBA. These postings will be included in Marianne's duties for the Selectboard. ZBA will submit information to the Selectboard office a week in advance of posting date. Myron explained that appeals must meet specific criteria in order to be approved.

Trooper Bob Benoit and Officer Charlie Ricko stopped in, introduced themselves, and mentioned an upcoming Community Policing Meeting. Charlie has informed truckers that he will call in state inspectors if they continue to speed through town. The board will schedule a meeting with the Police Department in April to discuss speeding.

Board reviewed a letter from Paul Rich concerning inspection of his garage. Board will discuss this at the next meeting of the full board.

Board reviewed a draft letter to Mike Wing about abutters' concerns. Christine and Katharine will edit Margie's draft.

Board reviewed draft budget for FY2000.

PRESS Wendell Post Reporter

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Margie's one-year evaluation delayed until the full board is present.

Board reviewed letter received from Montague asking the board to request Y2K support from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). Decided not to pursue.

Board reviewed letter received from FCSWMD regarding the disposal of fluorescent lamps. Margie will ask Joy, the custodian, whether she has any lamps to be disposed of.

Margie will attend March 21st meeting regarding COLA increase for Franklin County Retirement System.

Draft action plan for HUD Community Planning and Development presented to the board.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 p.m.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting, March 16, 1999

Meeting convened at 7:09 p.m. Members present were Christine Heard, Katharine Bentley, and Ted Lewis. Also present were Board of Health members Janee Stone, Morgan Mead, Gloria Kegeles; Citizens Advisory Committee on the Landfill representatives Nancy Riebschlaeger, Paul Newcomb, Joshua Dostis, Parker Cleveland; Sarah DeRoode, Police Department.

Board agreed to meet with DB and Nina Keller on Saturday March 27 at 9:00 a.m. in the Senior Center. The Board of Health and Citizens Advisory Committee will also be invited. The board will arrange to tour the facility with the Board of Health. Concerned citizens raised questions concerning escrow funds and supervision of closure. Nina Keller was deputized to be a Selectboard agent to gather complete information concerning finances and Board of Health information. Board signed letter to DB.

The boards received a copy of cease and desist order from Building Inspector, Phil Delory to Amerigro Industries dated March 16. The business does not have a special permit required for the industry. Ted will check with Phil concerning the delivery of his letter.

Sarah DeRoode informed the board that an Orange resident is interested in joining the Fire Department and inquired about policies concerning hiring people from out-of-town. The board approved hiring him. He will be covered by insurance like the rest of the Fire Department.

Sarah asked about Y2K problems. She will check with Annie Hartjens for information. Preparations for major emergencies were discussed. A building was added to the Highway Department for housing a generator could be used in emergencies. Sarah and Ted will work together on emergency preparedness.

Board of Health members reported that Jack Shea had signed a contract with the board on March 15, 1999 to do repairs needed to bring his building into compliance. Progress is being made in clean up. The school bus has been removed and the dogs have returned.

Discussion of communications, connections, and liability issues between Board of Health and Citizens Advisory Committee on the Landfill. The BOH will ask the CAC to report to them at BOH meetings.

BOH has questions concerning bills received from Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) and will talk to Margie about this.

7:30 p.m. Personnel Policy Hearing. No one appeared for the hearing. Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Policy.

Board reviewed and signed contract for Lockes Village Road culvert design.

Board informed that Treasurer has compared tax revenue for this year with last year, and we are approximately $185,000 ahead this year.

Board will inquire with John Gates regarding back taxes. Senator Rosenberg's office has information concerning the Department of Revenue's procedures to exempt residents from paying interest and penalties associated with past due taxes.

Board approved a request for Erving School Union #28 to use the Commons for a kids' festival/fair in June 5th or 12th. Kids from all five towns will be invited.

Board reviewed letter from Department of Revenue requesting Schedule A from Town Accountant. Nancy has taken care of this.

Board reviewed letter received from Paul Rich and agreed to send him a registered letter announcing that they will inspect his garage on March 20 at 4:00 p.m. Board reviewed flyer received from FRCOG regarding Chapter 90 funds.

Board reviewed invitation to Franklin County Selectmen's Association dinner and presentation on Chapter 90 cuts. Harry Williston will attend.

Board reviewed letter from FRCOG regarding traffic counts. Danny Bacigalupo, Highway Department Superintendent, would like to collect data on New Salem Road near the Stone's house, and Farley Road between Mormon Hollow Road and Route 2. The Board added Wendell Depot Road near Plain Road to this list for consideration. The data will be used to support future requests for repairs.

Board reviewed letter from FCSWMD requesting support letters for recycling funding and will ask Margie to write a letter.

Board reviewed letter from the Secretary of the Commonwealth requesting a support letter for preservation funds.

Board informed that Senator Rosenberg has sent a support letter for our modified CDBG housing rehabilitation application.

Board informed that Annie Hartjens has met with the Secretary of State's staff and is now in compliance with reporting laws.

Board reviewed a letter from Ken Holmerg regarding wireless communication tower referendum and will discuss this at the next meeting.

Meeting recessed at 9:25 p.m. to be reconvened on March 20, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. at the corner of Montague and Wicket Pond Roads.

Saturday, March 20, 1999

Present: Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, Katharine Bentley, Select Board Members.
Members met at 4:00 p.m. and attempted to visit Paul Rich's Class II and special permit facility. The person in Mr. Rich's trailer said he did not know where Mr. Rich was. Mr. Rich did not answer at the guest cottage. Select Board agreed to schedule a hearing to withdraw Mr. Rich's licenses. Meeting ended at 4:20 p.m.

Saturday, March 27, 1999

Present: Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, Katharine Bentley, Select Board members; Joe Diemand, Dean Bennett, owners of DB Enterprises, Inc.; Morgan Mead, Board of Health; Nina Keller, Hazardous Waste Coordinator; Mason Phelps, Citizen.
1. Meeting opened at 9:05 a.m.
2. Discussion followed about the letter dated 3/26/99 from Mary Holland, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to the Wendell Select Board and the Board of Health.

Discussion centered on condition #1 which requires an engineer be present each day during closing operations of DB's landfill. Dean explained that the capping process will go on over several months, but not occur every day. Dean will speak with DEP to explain the financial ramifications of this condition. Dean said DB will do closure using their own resources, i.e., trucks, dirt from Joe Diemand's land (or elsewhere nearby in Wendell). There are 5.5 acres to cover; some coverage has already taken place and more will be done before closure. The landfill will close on July 30, 1999, although the permit runs until November 22, 1999. The closure process will run from August 1, 1999 to July 31, 2000.

The Select Board and the Board of Health will jointly respond to the DEP letter asking DEP to discuss costs of condition #1 with DB Enterprises, Inc., especially in reference to who will pay for daily engineer costs. Can State help defray expenses?

Condition # 2 and #3 are no problem with DB Enterprises, Inc.. #2 states that DEP will send all information about closure to the Wendell Select Board.

As regards condition #3, DB is very willing to convert the current long-term, escrow account into an account in perpetuity. DB will draw up an agreement with DEP to do so. Dean estimates that there will be $150,000 (taking into account interest) in the long term account after two years of active closure activity. Dean advised that reducing the testing schedule after active closure would extend the life of the long term account.
3. Dean claimed that DB employees look around daily and clean up litter that they can see. After closure, once the landfill has been covered with dirt, litter will not be generated. Dean said that just before closure, all litter will be picked up and returned to landfill. All litter will be cleaned up, including hillside and brook; and the road will be fixed.
4. Joe Diemand asked permission to borrow two road signs for "Men Working" from the Highway Department, so that DB employees can safely sweep dirt and dust off Mormon Hollow Road. Ted Lewis will check with Highway Department.
5. DB Enterprises, Inc. will provide the Select Board with a copy of the current deed of the landfill by Wednesday, March 31, 1999. If the current deed does not include an update about asbestos in the landfill, Dean will provide a date that the deed will be updated to include that information. Restrictions about the use of the land after closure of the landfill should be on the deed. The deed should also include a map indicating the landfill footprint.
6. Dean explained that a closure plan exists, i.e., the original contract between DEP and DB. DEP is now requiring that DB acquire a permit to close. Dean is worried that the permitting process may be time consuming and costly, eating into the short-term, closure escrow account.
7. The escrow accounts were discussed., Dean estimated that the short-term, closure escrow account will have $350,000.00 in it at the start of the closure process, i.e. July 30, 1999. He estimated that the long-term, monitoring escrow account will have about $265,000.00 in it at that time.

DB has consistently charged a tipping fee of $18.00 per cubic yard; the only exception is that companies that do a large volume of business with DB receive a discount.

Dean will ask DB's bank to provide complete records of :

1. tipping fees paid to the Town of Wendell;
2. escrow account deposits:
   a. short-term, closure escrow account deposits should equal $1.50 per cubic yard for whole term of landfill;

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b. long-term, monitoring escrow account deposits should equal $.50 per cubic yard until 5 years ago when the deposit was raised to $1.00 per cubic yard to ensure enough money would be in the escrow account.

This information will be provided to the Select Board.

Dean explained that the escrow accounts will be accessed in different ways. The short-term, closure account will be accessed by DB submitting invoices for the work of closure to the DEP who will approve the invoices; the bank will then release money to DB to pay the closing costs. Dean was unsure about the process for the long-term, monitoring account; he believed that the Town of Wendell and DB will be involved in releasing those funds. Dean will check on the process and inform the Select Board.

8. Leachate records have been sent to the Board of Health consistently from the beginning of operation of the landfill. Quarterly reports are sent, and then an annual report, including the number of trucks delivering to the landfill and the number of cubic yards deposited.

Nina Keller agreed to ask the Citizens Advisory Committee for a volunteer to examine and organize these Board of Health records.

Morgan Mead agreed to discuss the position of Board of Health clerk with Marianne Sundell. Payment for this position will be discussed with Board of Health and the Select Board, when an interested applicant is found.

9. A tour of the DB landfill was scheduled for Saturday, April 10, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. A maximum of 10 people will visit DB: 3 Select Board members; 3 Board of Health members (to be informed by Morgan Mead); Nina Keller, Hazardous Waste Coordinator; 1 member of the Planning Board and 2 members of the Citizens Advisory Committee. Marjorie McGinnis, Town Coordinator, will be asked to inform the Citizens Advisory Committee and the Planning Board of their invitations. Non-town officials (i.e., Citizens Advisory Committee members) will be required by DB to sign a waiver before the tour.

10. Long term disposition of the land fill was discussed. Joe Diemand owns the 21 acres that comprises the land fill. Joe and Dean are considering erecting a building for commercial operation where the DB trailer and parking lot are now. Right now they are busy preparing for closure. They have no plans for long term disposition (i.e., possibly selling it or willing it to their heirs). The part of the 21 acres that is not used for the land fill could be used to store cars for Mormon Hollow Auto Salvage.

11. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

March 30,1999

Meeting convened at 9:08 p.m. members present were Ted Lewis, Christine Heard, and Katharine Bentley. Also present Margie McGinnis, Town Coordinator, and Marianne Sundell. Minutes were reviewed and signed.

Board discussed setting a date for Town meeting in late May or early June and the need to discuss this with the Finance Committee.

Board was informed of ballot question concerning Wireless Communications and Cell Phone Tower Development introduced by Ken Holmberg of the Planning Board. Marianne Sundell of the Planning Board updated the board on proposed wireless communication bylaw and the limitations of Federal Communications Act of 1996 on local governments She will write press release on these topics before the election.

TOWN OF WENDELL MASSACHUSETTS 01379

Board signed letters to Representative Kulik and Senator Rosenberg requesting support for Mass. Preservation Project Fund.

Board signed letter to Representative Kulik requesting support for the Clean Environment Fund.

Board discussed FY2000 budget with Finance Committee Chair Lee Trousdale and set a tentative date of June 8th for the Annual Town Meeting.

Margie informed the board that two new picnic tables and wastebaskets had been ordered for the playground using DARE grant funds. Police Chief Ed Chase also intends to have other playground equipment repaired and purchase two benches.

Highway Superintendent Danny Bacigalupo briefed the board on the culvert hearing for Depot Road near Plain Road. Although it is made of concrete, the bottom will be buried in natural materials to make it appear like a natural stream bottom. Work on Plain Road is expected to resume in mid-April.

Board discussed Lake Grove students painting the Town Hall. They have offered to supply paint and have insurance and ladders. Margie will contact Doug Turner of New Salem regarding fixing clapboards and preparing the building for paint.

The Board approved a request from the Mahar Building Committee for a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on April 27th.

Board reviewed and revised a letter to Mary Holland at the DEP regarding DB issues.

Nancy Riebschlaeger of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the landfill reviewed issues surrounding closure of the landfill. A rumor regarding an engineer for the University of Massachusetts who can supervise the closure for a minimal expense was discussed. She raised concerns about the legality of calling sludge "organic fertilizer" in Massachusetts. She said the same materials could be considered hazardous waste in other circumstances. Margie informed the board that DB's engineer had faxed a copy of their solid waste report to the Town Office.

Board reviewed the warrants with Town Accountant Nancy Riebschlaeger and Treasurer Carolyn Manley and signed them.

Board reviewed Joe Diemand's attorney's response to an injunction filed against him by Town for lack of occupancy permit and special permit. Nancy voiced concerns about the contents of the landfill and informed the board that she will be seeking input from the Millers River Watershed Alliance regarding this issue.

Board approved the use of the Town Hall by Jessica Newton for TOOLS, a program for Wendell youth. A fee of $25 a week will be charge as the leaders are being paid for working with the group.

Board scheduled hearing to consider revoking Paul Rich's Class II license for April 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Nancy explained that the Town would need to apply for emergency procurement status for the purchase of the new furnace for the Town Offices.

Board reviewed additional letter received from the Department of Revenue regarding Schedule A. Nancy has filed appropriate papers.

Board reviewed letters from Representative Kulik and Senator Rosenberg regarding the AT&T tower on Locke Hill Road. A letter from AT& T's representative informed the representatives that the tower is "a valued AT&T asset and the site has not been abandoned." It said the company would take steps to remove the strobe lighting on the tower and replace it with less disruptive lightening. Margie will follow up on this matter.

Board reviewed a letter from the Ethics Commission offering to do a workshop on the Conflict of Interest Law and agreed to hold off on this until after Town Meeting.

Board was informed that two letters have been received from the DOR, one with Franklin Technical School's excess fund amount at $228,275 and the other with Mahar's excess at $25,564 and a final assessment amount received from Mahar. Copies have been forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Board reviewed a letter from FRCOG regarding the County Retirement assessment. This has increased substantially as the State has turned the cost of living increase over to the towns. FRCOG and the Selectman's Association have voted to endorse a plan, which would allow towns to phase in this cost rather than absorb the impact in a single year.

The Board was informed of a hearing in Boston on community conservation, heritage, and recreation. Margie will forward this notice to the Conservation Commission.

Board reviewed Intended Use Plan received from DEP for the clean water state revolving fund.

Board agreed not to pursue an Urban Forest Planning and Education grant.

Board discussed Historic Landscape Preservation Grant and April 27th forum. Margie plans to attend the forum.

Board reviewed letter from Bell Atlantic regarding phone company front groups.

Board reviewed letter regarding the Annual River Rat Race Spectacular on April 10th, and is not interested in participating.

Board discussed additional solicitation received from Munenergy.

Board completed Margie's one-year review and complimented her on her job to date.

Board discussed purchasing virus protection from the Town Office computer and repairing A drive. Margie will ask Nancy for assistance with this.

Board reviewed draft of letter to Mike Wing concerning the terms of this Class III license which was drafted in response to concerns of abutters. They agreed to delay sending him a letter until they could look into some of the concerns further.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Sundell
Selectboard Clerk

Note: Christine Heard took the minutes at the Saturday Selectboard meetings.

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Anna's Music

Anna Wetherby, daughter of Tom and Sylvia Wetherby has been accepted at the Sixth International Chamber Music Workshop in Orvieto, Italy. A music major at Boston University, Anna has been named to the dean's list for the fall semester. Anna's music education started at seven when she began to study violin with David Tasgal. When at fourteen she decided to study viola, Catherine Bowers became her teacher and mentor. She is currently a student of Michelle LaCourse of Northampton. During her musical career, Anna has performed with the Pioneer Valley Symphony, the Plymouth Philharmonic, the Boston University Symphony, and Schleigho. She has recorded with the Smith Family Project and performed in several solo appearances at the Full Moon Coffee House.

CITIZENS ASK FOR ROLE IN LANDFILL CLOSURE

The revelation that asbestos contaminated waste was dumped in the Mormon Hollow Demo Landfill in Wendell lit a spark under local citizens. Town officials and the Citizens Advisory Group on the Landfill (C.A.C.L.) have been working together to ensure that the closure of the landfill protects the needs of the environment now and for as long as the risk exists.

Town officials and C.A.C.L. have expressed to the DEP their desire to be included in the closure process. C.A.C.L. has also written the Board of Health asking the board to exercise their legal powers to ensure citizen participation.

There is a state law that governs landfills, 310 CMR 19. The steps that must be completed for a landfill closure are listed in that statute. In addition, a Landfill Technical Guidance Manual supplies more detail about these steps.

The Landfill Assessment and Closure process includes:

- Initial Site Assessment and Scope of Work
- Comprehensive Site Assessment
- Corrective Action Alternative Analysis
- Corrective Action Design

C.A.C.L. invites all interested persons to join in reviewing these reports. Some will contain technical information that may require special skills to help the group evaluate and understand the information. Call 544-2741 to be put on the C.A.C.L. mailing list.

Nancy Riebschlaeger

Thinking of Home

HUNGARY

Hungary is in the central of Europe. We can say, that it is the heart of Europe, because the geografical middle point is located in there. The country is bordering with - from the North to East - Slovak Republic, Ukraine, Romania, Yugoslavia, Croatia, Slovenie and Austria. The Capital of Hungary is Budapest.

The Hungarian history goes back to 5-6000 BC. Actually, it started in the 4th. century AD in Europe, when Attila the Hun has arrived.
The main seven Hungarian tribes were going into the Carpathians in 896 by the led of Arpad. The first Hungarian king was Istvan, who made the statefoundation in the year of 1000. (He was a strongarmed king, and you can see his ambalmed right arm in a gold coffin in Budapest.)
Hungary was very strong and big in that time. the bigest teritory was in the 14th. century, when "big" Lajos was the king. If we check it with a 20th. centurian eyes, the parts of his state would be Germany, Switzerland, Austria, North Italy, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovac Republic, Moldova, Hungary, Romania, Slovenie, Croatia, Yugoslavia, Bosnia Hertzegovina, North Albania, Bulgaria.
The last big Hungarian king was Matyas, the Righteous. His father has protected Europe from the Turkish Empire in the middle ages in the Battle of Nandorfehervar (Now, it is Belgrad the Capital of Yugoslavia). You can hear the bells of the churches ring at noon from that battle.
After King Matyas died by a conspiracy, the Turkish came into the half country and they said: "we love us here!". They spent 150 years down there.
When Hungary got free 100 percent, started a new empire, the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The family name of the kings was Habsburg, a Europien wide royal dinasty. They have reigned till the begining of the XX. Century. Hungary had two bigger uprising, the first was in 1703-1711 (led by Rakoczy, Ferenc) and the second in 1848-1849 (led by Kossuth, Lajos).
After the World War I., which is started on the Balkan, Hungary was cut by the Peace of Trianon in 1920. It is just 1/3 of what it was. From that time Hungary does not have a king. Since the World War I. it had a Governer, called Horthy. Hungary had to get in the World War II. because of the confiscated parts. In 1944 the nazis went into the country with the german army.
1945-1947 Hungary was a democratic country, but after that time the communists became leaders till 1989. Unfortunately, the counter-revolution was not so long, but it was bloody (10-23-1956 to 11-05-1956).
Now, Hungary has the 3rd. government from that time, which is voted by democracy and the country joined the NATO.

Hungary is situated between the Carpathians. It has two big rivers, the Danube and the Tisza. After the confiscation the country does not have really big mountains. The tallest spot is 3200 feets, called Kekes. The climate is almost the same as here in Wendell. Because Hungary and Massachusetts are on the same lathitude. The country also has four seasons.

The people in Hungary are very friendly and famous about their hospitality. They are also famous about their agriculture: Hungarian salami, vines (for example: Tokaji Aszu, the best dessert vine in the World), palinka, apple, peach, livestock, different types of foods, etc.

Hungary is in the TOP 10 most visited place in the Earth. When you visit this beautiful country, you will see Budapest, Szentendre, Visegrad, Esztergom, the Balaton region (the biggest lake in Europe), Eger, Tokaj, Hortobagy, Szeged, Opusztaszer, Pecs, Sopron, Koszeg.

The Hungarian people are world famous about their creativity and very good in scientifics. Just a couple of inventions: matches, ball-point pen, computer, vitamin C, higiene and a lot of useful, every-day things, that you have never thought of.

And at last, some famous Hungarian American: John Deere, Ede Teller, John Neuman, George Soros, George Pataky, Andre Agassi, Monica Szeles, Robert Halmy, George Czukor, Zsazsa & Eva Gabor, Bela Lugosi, Paul Simon, Joe Esterhas, Tony Curtis etc.

I hope that You and Hungary will meet soon.

Attila Tomosi

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